

Jim Corbett Says

Gibbons-Clabby Encounter Next Thursday Holds Closest Interest of Fight Fans

Gibbons is Regarded in the East as Likely Winner Because of His Fast Thinking and His Aggressiveness, but Clabby's Ability Makes Him the Favorite Among Western Enthusiasts.

NEW YORK, Jan. 16.—A match which looks something like a real sporting proposition is on the cards for next Thursday night in Milwaukee.

While New York promoters pulled an awful bone in letting this affair get away from them, it has not lessened the local interest in the bout to any extent. In fact, to listen to the sports talk about one would imagine that Mike Gibbons and Jimmy Clabby were to hook up right here in little o-o-Gotham.

Gibbons and Clabby look the claim of the middleweight division at this writing. With the exception of Eddie McGeary—if he can make the weight—there is no one left to challenge their right to battle for the championship. Oh yes, I forgot one Al McCoy, who climbed to fame in the short route when he fought George Chip on the jaw one night last spring. However, judging by McCoy's late performance with second and third rounds he could not expect to make much of a showing against either of these clever birds. I believe Gibbons could dispose of McCoy's aspirations in less than ten rounds. And very likely Clabby could do the same, but as my acquaintance with his ring style is limited I do not care to venture an opinion.

McGeary is Different. With McGeary, however, it is a horse of another color. If, as he claims, he can make the middleweight limit as of yore, McGeary will have to be reckoned with in the middleweight pot pie. His recent defeat of Billy Murray at a weight near the limit proves conclusively that Oshkosh is still on the map. While Mac's "win" over Murray was of the popular decision variety and not nearly so impressive as George Chip's two knockout victories over the Californian, he demonstrated that he is still there with cleverness and punch. It is a matter of pounds and McGeary.

Gibbons Showed Fine Work. If Gibbons and Clabby were meeting in New York, Paul had to be a hot favorite with the talent. Although Clabby's record in the books is far more impressive than Gibbons, his sole appearance in this city was anything but startling and failed to enhance his reputation with local devotees of the sport. On the other hand, Gibbons has shown some brilliant ring work hereabouts and, barring that terrible affair with McGeary a couple of years ago, has been one of the best in the division order. Both Mike and Eddie had "sick alphas" for their poor performance on that occasion, and to tell the truth the kindly did fight like a couple of invalids.

Gibbons is Very Aggressive. Gibbons is one of the few men above the lightweight limit I have seen in recent years who appears to know what he is about while in the ring. At feinting an opponent into a state of decided uneasiness, Gibbons is a class by himself. He does not bluff with his left or right just for the sake of showing that he has two hands, but with an object in mind. He can take advantage of it quicker or with greater effect than he.

But Mike doesn't fight every man along the general line. He has his particular style for every man he faces. In feinting Mike does not waste an ounce of strength. He is not a wasting man about the ring like many of our modern youngsters, but uses his head, his feet and hands intelligently. And, when he gets swinging, he is after you man take advantage of it quicker or with greater effect than he.

While Mike is not credited with being an unmitigated hard hitter, it has been observed that he is one of the most effective punchers in the business. His blows are not a matter of swinging, cutting and clean, calculated efforts that are vastly more effective. He has that wonderful asset of the successful boxer, the jab, only in his case it lands with much more force than the usual left lead. Every jab or hook means danger to his opponent, and he can take advantage of it generally connects.

Consent Raves About Clabby. Of course, Jimmy Clabby may prove the one exception to the rule in Gibbons' case. Jimmy is a very clever boxer; everybody says who has seen him in recent exhibitions. So far, Gibbons has never met a man to whom he couldn't hit. I mean, since he developed into a first class man, Mike himself tells a story of boxing Clabby when the latter made a sucker out of him. But at that time Gibbons was only beginning his career, while Jimmy was a veteran in comparison.

The Pacific coast has a lot to say about Clabby. Jimmy has had several battles in San Francisco and made good with a vengeance. The Socialists of George Chip set the coast on fire with him, for had not Chip toyed with their pride, Billy Murray? Just as in the east Gibbons is a natural, Clabby is the favorite in the far west. **Thinks Gibbons is Coming Champion.**

There is no doubting Clabby's ability as a boxer and fighter. But it is my opinion that he will not be every bit as good as his friends say, and a little bit better, to beat St. Paul soon. This is only one man's opinion and you can see for what it is worth. I know practically nothing about Jimmy as a fighter, while I do know a little about Gibbons, and know considerable about Clabby, and Mike looks awful good to me. Good enough, in fact, for me to take a ticket on him against anyone in the middleweight division, no matter how great his opponent's record. That is my opinion of Gibbons as a fighter. I think him the coming champion. If I am wrong and Clabby is the better man, I will be among the first to congratulate him and admit my error of judgment.

The contest means much to the men. If they both fight as they can it will mean a great battle. But at times we get the least where we expect the most. Let us hope that this will not be one of those affairs which will leave a bad taste in our mouths when talking about it.

The Johnson-Willard Fight. Now that it is an assured thing that Jess Willard will not engage in a contest with any of his white rivals before taking on Jack Johnson for the championship of the world, we will have to be satisfied with the statements made by his managers that the big fellow is anxious to put himself right with the public and that they (the managers) are responsible for his apparent lack of fighting spirit. Both Tom Jones and Jack Curley say that Jess entertains no fear of the outcome of any match that might be made for him, but that common sense prompts them to refuse to let him have his way in the matter. Will the match for the championship be near at hand, they argue, it would be foolish to permit him to run the risk of injury in his hands in battle with some second-rater, as he would not gain anything by winning and, if he failed to stop his man, he would be held up to public ridicule as a joke fighter.

March 6 has been set as the date for the battle, and Jaurez, across the Rio Grande from El Paso, as the place. Johnson is to receive \$10,000, while or draw, also a big interest in the

moving pictures—which by the way will hardly be worth printing if the negro is the winner. Willard, I presume, will get little or nothing outside of the chance at the title. If he can make good and win over the negro the entire purse will not amount to anything in comparison with what he can make in the next few years in the show business. So he is gambling nothing really against a chance to make an immense pot of money. Who can blame him? I can't.

Jack's Fighting Instinct. Big Jess has everything in a physical way that could be desired. He has given a fair account of himself for one so little experienced in the game. He has never met a first class fighter, however, and predictions as to what he may accomplish in the Johnson battle are simply a matter of conjecture and nothing else.

From what little I have seen of him he appears to lack the fighting instinct. In local contests he has shown no aggressiveness at all, and as Johnson

flights along the defensive almost entirely the affair may develop into a question which man can stand up the longer. I can't picture Johnson chasing an opponent or carrying the fight to him. And Willard has never yet been guilty of forcing matters in a match even when opposed to the veriest dubs.

Willard Carries Best Wishes. Willard may prove a surprise, but he has not done anything so far in his career to lead one to suspect as much. Jess's managers are apparently the only ones who entertain the opinion that the ex-cowboy has a chance to win the championship. If, as they promised, when the match was first announced, Willard had met and defeated even one of the leading contenders, would he go into the ring on March 6 with the public confidence. As it is all he can hope for in that direction is the best wishes of help him in general. And that won't help him any.

Ball "Slaves" May Worry When Freed Salaries May Be Cut To Normal Basis

BY JOHN E. WRAY.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Jan. 16.—When the street war is over and the baseball slaves released from bondage, the sorriest bunch in the universe will be these very chattels who are now chafing under restraint.

For, with the end of the war will come a new agreement among the owners, and the present one is declared a "trust." It will be made "right," too, and under it the ball player will be reduced to a fraction of his former financial importance and probably be made to bear the burden of some of the losses that magnates are now being forced to carry.

Under the national agreement system, whatever fault it may have, the player attained a high state of salary development. But with anything less than one-two-three baseball they are sure to make a big dent in the magnate's strongholds, and the indignation will increase with time.

No doubt of it. William, the call of the mercenary player is growing annually. While Saturday afternoons and Sundays are the only days automobiles really have a good outing. The Municipal league is an element of danger, the possibilities of which may be measured by the fact that three automobiles for the city championship of Cleveland attracted an average attendance of 60,000. Computed systematically, too!

Well, He Did Come Back. Carl Morris may not cause much excitement as a "home" in some quarters, but he is making quite a fuss in promotion circles. According to all hostile reports, he should be a nail in the coffin of the Municipal league. Jim Flynn, who drove the first spike in the hope's future three years ago in New York by knocking the features of Mr. Morris for ten long rounds.

Later, late McCarthy tripped him into the coal-hole of oblivion, as he was bawling through Springfield, Mo. Mortal could sink no lower, the fans once thought.

But Carl kept on fighting and won back a place, until now he's getting his third foothold on a fight map. If you don't believe it, here's Carl's outline: Boxes Gunboat Smith Jan. 28, February date.

Is sought by Jack Carley for a bout with Jim Flynn, March 5 (day before Willard-Johnson bout) at Jaurez, Mexico. Offered a bout with Jim Coffey at Havana, Cuba, by Billy Gibbons, the New York promoter, late in March.

If Morris goes through with this program he'll be busier than most of the live ones dare to be.

DUFFY OUTPOINTS DUNDIE. IN EAST, 10 ROUND BOUT. Milwaukee, Wis., Jan. 16.—Jimmy Duffy easily outpointed Johnny Dundie in a 10 round no decision boxing match here Friday night, according to a majority of sporting writers at the rigside.

The bout was one of the fastest ever boxed in Milwaukee. Duffy weighed 126 and Dundie 127½ pounds.

BABY SPEED DEMON MAKES NEW HYDROPLANE RECORD. Miami, Fla., Jan. 16.—Baby Speed Demon, owned by J. Stuart Blackson, of New York, established a new Florida record Friday for hydroplanes, when it circled a 30 mile water course in 35.51 and won the feature event of the opening program in the annual midwinter power boat regatta.

IF YOU WOULD ENJOY LONG LIFE AND VIGOROUS HEALTH, DRINK OUR BUTTERMILK FREELY. El Paso Dairy Co., phone 240. —Advertisement.

Grayson has a theory that the cream

has already been lapped off the baseball situation and that the big profits are a thing of the past, even though peace is restored and warring factions lay down the cudgels.

In St. Louis the situation is becoming serious for the baseball magnates. When racing closed here baseball had a soft time of it, even though it's different. Here are some of the Saturday and Sunday enemies of baseball.

The automobile. The motor cycle. The Maracoe river and other outdoor sports.

The Municipal league. Growing Worse, Not Better.

"Perhaps if we had a world-beating team here these factions would be minimized, but with anything less than one-two-three baseball they are sure to make a big dent in the magnate's strongholds, and the indignation will increase with time."

No doubt of it. William, the call of the mercenary player is growing annually. While Saturday afternoons and Sundays are the only days automobiles really have a good outing. The Municipal league is an element of danger, the possibilities of which may be measured by the fact that three automobiles for the city championship of Cleveland attracted an average attendance of 60,000. Computed systematically, too!

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EVEN BAT NELSON WOULD COME BACK

(Continued from previous page.)

Ad Wolgast, Leach Cross, Young Shugrue or any of a half dozen others could probably beat him. It is very improbable, however, that Welsh will ever fight a finish affair. The Briton is a wily customer, and he knows that Shugrue is a pretty certain to steer well clear of any such match. And as it is unlikely that he will fight against for him is Young Shugrue. If any boy at the weight in the country can stop Welsh, past performances show that Shugrue is the one to turn this trick. In his recent fights the Jersey boy has shown about as much speed as Welsh and he has shown, too, that he has a good stiff punch in either hand, something which Welsh does not possess in either. No one doubts, of course, that Packer McCormick could trip Welsh in short order. But Packer could never come within 25 pounds of the weight unless he cut off a leg.

Cliff Hill is not going to take any chance on falling to make good during the coming season. Two years ago Cliff was defeated by Waco in the Texas league. He easily made good there. Then he returned to El Paso and, through a series of circumstances, through failing to keep in condition during the winter and through failing to start training early enough, he fell down badly during the early part of last season. He was so poor that Waco fanned him out to the Virginia league. Cliff pitched such fine ball there that Waco was compelled to recall him and he wound up the season with Waco with such a bang up brand of twirling that Moose McCormick drafted him for the Chattanooga Southern league team.

It was erroneously reported in the morning papers a few days ago that Cliff had left the city. Hill is still in El Paso but expects to leave within the next few days for Hot Springs, Ark., where he will spend the remainder of the time before the training season opens, in getting into condition for the coming baseball season. He is accompanied by Billy Perry, the youngster who has been playing such a remarkable game of billiards in the local pool room, and is going to play in progress here.

SAN JACINTO TEAM WINS SOCCER GAME

Continuing to play the hard fast game which they have shown all season, the San Jacinto senior football team defeated the team representing Alamo Friday afternoon by a score of 3 to 0. The score does not really indicate the superiority of San Jacinto over Alamo. San Jacinto could have run up a dozen points. But the boys preferred to develop team work and they frequently deliberately kicked the ball away from the Alamo goal and passed the ball around. The more the managers think of it, the more they are exasperated by the result. It is now said that the American league does not intend to establish such a limit, and it is the belief of the baseball men generally that no attempt will ever be made to force any club to live up to the rule.

RACE BREAKS SOUTHWESTERN RECORD FOR INDOOR HIGH JUMP

Friday night the indoor high jumping record for the southwest was broken at the Y. M. C. A. Billy Race of the School of Mines, broke his previous record of 5 feet 10 inches by a full inch. Billy, who is probably the smallest man in this end of the country who tries the high jump, says he feels like a champion. He broke the record in the meet at Mesilla Park last spring with a jump of five feet, nine inches. Friday night came within a half inch of the outdoor record before he broke it and stamps him as the greatest jumper ever produced in the southwest. Billy has acquired the rolling form of jumping used by Beeson and Horne, the wonderful California jumpers, and it is principally through his being able to perfect this form that he has been able to make the records he has.

More Than 5000 Robbers Levy Tribute in One of The Canton Districts

Canton, China, Jan. 16.—More than 5000 robbers are said to be at work in the Fa Tin district of Canton province. Fa Tin is the principal city of the district, is surrounded by a band of over a thousand who demand payment of between fifteen and twenty thousand dollars Mexican.

A chapel of the Berlin Missionary society in Luk Hsanz, about ten miles away from Fa Tin, has received a threatening letter demanding \$3000.

A large valley on the other side of the city has been assessed by the robbers \$50,000 Mexican, about \$1 per capita.

Last month a Christian preacher was captured and held at the house of his family. He had succeeded in raising the sum of \$200, a large sum for a poor Chinese family.

A usual kidnapping of girls is going on also.

ARDENT GOLFERS EXERCISING



Thomas Wells is here shown driving in a unique golf course which has been built on the roof of a New York hotel, so the devotees of the Scottish sport may not be deprived of their regular exercise in the winter time. The marked squares in the background register the drives. The player is credited with a certain length of drive, based on the height at which his ball strikes the score board.

The plan is a great success, and many players are keeping up their game by working out here regularly. It is at the same time, somewhat of a society function, and a welcome relaxation from the perpetual round of tango teas and other dancing affairs. Marion Hollins and other well-known women golfers patronize the course.

NATIONAL LEAGUE MAGNATES HATE RULE LIMITING NUMBER OF MEN

Time Is Too Short to Effect Reductions to the 20 Player Limit, They Assert; and, Besides, Federals Would Have a Cinch in Acquiring Prominent Players as Organized Baseball Let Them Go.

By DAMON RUNYON.

A LOW murmur of managerial discontent is running through the National league at this writing and is growing louder from day to day. By the middle of February it will probably have expanded to the ominous growl of an enraged mob.

It is all on account of the player limit rule, adopted by the National league. The more the managers think of it, the more they are exasperated by the result. It is now said that the American league does not intend to establish such a limit, and it is the belief of the baseball men generally that no attempt will ever be made to force any club to live up to the rule.

The player limit of National league teams was placed at 21 men, and the reduction has to be made by May 1. Nearly every club in the league has about to men under contract, and as no club is supposed to go south for spring training until the first of March, the managers declare that it would be impossible for them to look over the men in that short time.

It has been pointed out that all the Federal league would have to do to gather up all the promising young players it desired would be to send scouts through the various big league camps in March and snatch the pick of the talent when the cutting down commenced the first of May. Thus the Feds would be saved the expense of collecting, transporting, and training the youngsters.

Every club in the National league, with the possible exception of the Boston Braves, must undergo a jobbing process next season and commence breaking in youngsters to take the places of old men. Even the Braves will have to get rid of ten players under the limit rule, and included in the ten are several youngsters that Stallings would like to keep. By being forced to make an arbitrary reduction in a few weeks every manager would

probably have to let a lot of lads go who might develop into real stars.

Every Hunter Arrives. "Snister Dick" Kinsella, the famous scout of the Giants, arrived here as per advance notice in this column, and was soon in executive session with John J. McGraw.

From the way the snister one snorted when questioned about the matter, it is believed that the rumor of him going to the Yanks is what you might call a canard. Still, he did not state the purpose of his call, and as a man must have some object in abandoning Springfield, Ill., New York rolled high came with 230 and high total with 943, giving him a margin of 33 points over the second man in total and 47 plus in high games. He rolled the fine average of .189 for the night.

Popular Belief That Cannonading Brings Rain Disproven By Scientists.

London, Eng., Jan. 15.—English scientists have again been compelled to assure the public that the notion of gun-fire bringing rain is baseless. About four years ago the First Lord of the Admiralty was gravely asked in the House of Commons whether he would instruct the fleet to carry out its heavy gun practice at some other period of the year than in the middle of harvest time, when the resultant heavy rain was cause serious loss to the farming community. The idea is absolutely without foundation. Experiments made in America and on the continent show that in dry years the amount of rain which falls is the slightest effect in the production of rain.

"At the present time there is one fact which should at once dispense of the cherished theory. There is no reason for thinking that gun firing at the front is more violent than it was in the earlier stages of the war. The rain should, therefore, have commenced shortly after the outbreak of the war, as a matter of fact, nothing of the kind took place. In August and September the rainfall was much below the average."

"At Shoeburyness, where big guns are being tested almost daily, year in and year out, the average annual rainfall is smaller than in any other part of the United Kingdom."

Our buttermilk is smooth as velvet, as good as cream and far more digestible. El Paso Dairy Co.—Adv.

MEDICINE BALL ON THE BEACH IN BATHING SUITS



Fifty members of the two Canton Island swimming clubs pledged to year-round bathing romping about the beach in the usual water attire and plunging into the icy waters. A big crowd lined up in furs and ulsters while watching them when the picture was taken.

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